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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner : Anish Gupta
Art Unit : 1653
Applicant : Kimihiro Yamashita
Appln. No. : 09/533,150
Filing Date : March 23, 2000
Confirm. No. : 1126
For : METHOD FOR CONTROLLING ORGANISMS AND MATERIAL
THEREFOR, METHOD FOR SELECTIVE ADSORPTION OF
PROTEINS AND MATERIAL THEREFOR, CEMENT MATERIAL
AND BIOMATERIAL

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

AMENDMENT

In response to Office Action mailed September 30, 2002, Applicant requests further consideration and examination in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Please amend the above-referenced application as follows.

In the Claims:

Cancel claims 4-21.

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Amend claims 1-3 to read as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for controlling growth, inhibition of growth, activation or inactivation of a microorganism, comprising:
providing a ceramic having an N-surface and a P-surface that were formed by treating the ceramic by polarization;
adsorbing on at least one of the N-surface and P-surface a microorganism; and
contacting the adsorbed microorganism with one or more agents selected from growth promoting agents, growth inhibiting agents, activating agents and deactivating agents.